

OPEN FORUM ON CLEAN PRODUCTS AND PROCESSES AND FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE PILOT STUDY

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Summary

The pilot study director, Dr. Subhas Sikdar opened the discussion by reviewing the concept behind this pilot study: there is a definite mission behind CCMS pilot programs, namely to facilitate a cross national dialogue and support cross national collaboration. Moreover, we are not here due to our own professional interest only, we are approved delegates speaking for the countries we represent. This makes the pilot study a very unique experience.

To satisfy the goal, the pilot study should stimulate discussions among nations and catalyse collaborative work, also through other auspices. Such spin-offs have already happened. Subhas Sikdar encouraged everyone to keep possibilities of collaboration in mind. The pilot study website could be one good catalyst for this.

Another aim of the study is to facilitate assistance CP nations – former European east block countries. Speaking of environmental performance of technology, NATO countries are perceived to be somewhat ahead, and an aim of the NATO CCMS is, that the study should be a helping hand to those countries in need. Therefore, collaboration between NATO countries and CP countries is desirable.

During the meeting it was mentioned that funding opportunities are available in e.g. NATO's science for peace program and various EU programs.

Dr. Sikdar urged delegates to go back and get in touch with their country representative of CCMS – or for CP nations ministry contacts or environmental protection agency contacts – and supply them with a summary report and maybe a copy of the meeting agenda. The purpose being to explain the benefit of the pilot to the people supporting the study and thereby prepare the land for future participation. Some NATO countries had for this meeting stated their interest in participating, but had not been able to raise funding. It is in-excusable for advanced countries like Netherlands, France etc. not being able to find the money to support a delegate. The country CCMS representative has an obligation to support the pilot study and the delegate.

Dr. Sikdar thanked the Copenhagen meeting hosts and complimented the meeting agenda. The special topic day provided very fruitful discussions. The question of how to proceed along the lines of such a special topic day was raised.

This year, a special focus on textiles was given by Professor Michael Overcash who had compiled inputs on Cleaner Production in textile industry from all participating countries. A discussion on how to proceed was opened ending with the conclusion to continue this project with metal finishing industry and food & agriculture.

Between meetings there had been established bi-national collaboration already, one example being, that Dr. Russell Dunn, who was invited speaker last year at the Belfast meeting had been

OPEN FORUM ON CLEAN PRODUCTS AND PROCESSES

invited as guest professor at the Technical University of Denmark and was going to come back there one more time in August 2000.

Dissemination of the meeting report was discussed, and various options were mentioned. One option is to have NATO CCMS print special booklets on elected topics, like e.g. a publication on the special topic day. Another option is to have the full report available on the pilot study website.

A discussion on the duration and structure of the next meeting concluded to follow much the same concept as known from previous meetings.

The issue of special topics was raised and a number of suggestions were put forward and discussed: Simplified methods and tools (e.g. LCA, Env. Management, etc.), the Military sector, Water reclamation and reuse a special topic? Cleaner Products and Processes in University Curriculum.

It was pointed out that the special topic to some extent would depend on the meeting location.

It was mentioned that the idea of having a Computer Café was good and should be continued.

Finally, as location of next years meeting: Spain was unanimously agreed on.

SUMMING UP

The pilot study director, Dr. Subhas Sikdar finalised the meeting by summing up and thanking organisers and sponsors: NATO CCMS, Danish EPA, US EPA, the Technical University of Denmark and the Danish Research Councils. [RETURN TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)